

**Subject: Rural Community-Building Grant Program – Grant Application Review**

**File Number: ACS2024-PDB-PS-0066**

**Report to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on 2 May 2024**

**Submitted on March 27, 2024 by Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services,  
Planning, Development and Building Services Department**

**Contact Person: Ryan Thompson, Planner II, Rural Affairs**

**613 580 2424 x 24541, Ryan.Thompson@ottawa.ca**

**Ward: Osgoode (20) West Carleton-March(5) Rideau-Jock (21)**

**Objet : Programme de subvention pour le renforcement communautaire en milieu  
rural – Examen de la demande de subvention**

**Dossier : ACS2024-PDB-PS-0066**

**Rapport au Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales**

**le 2 mai 2024**

**Soumis le 27 mars 2024 par Derrick Moodie, Directeur, Services de la  
planification, Direction générale des services de la planification, de  
l'aménagement et du bâtiment**

**Personne ressource : Ryan Thompson, Urbaniste II, Affaires rurales**

**613 580 2424 x 24541, Ryan.Thompson@ottawa.ca**

**Quartier: Osgoode (20) West Carleton-March(5) Rideau-Jock (21)**

#### **REPORT RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee approve the recommendations  
on the Rural Community-Building Grants Program applications as detailed in  
Document 1.**

#### **RECOMMANDATION(S) DU RAPPORT**

**Que le Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales approuve les  
recommandations concernant les demandes relatives au Programme de  
subventions pour le renforcement communautaire en milieu rural, comme  
l'explique en détail le document 1.**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Rural Community-Building Grants Program (RCBGP), approved by Council on September 14, 2011, is designed to support rural-based community projects undertaken by non-profit organizations. Funding is project-based, with a defined beginning and end and measurable outcomes. Assessment is made based on the merit of the project, community impact and organizational effectiveness.

The program is administered by the Rural Affairs Office. Projects are reviewed and decisions are made by the members of the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee.

This report provides a summary of the applications received under this Program by the Rural Affairs Office on March 14, 2024, March 26, 2024, and April 13, 2024.

## **DISCUSSION**

Under the program guideline for the RCBGP the eligible applicant is limited to organizations that:

- Are non-profit organizations that are active in rural Ottawa and recognized as supporting local community and/or agricultural activities and programs.
- Operate in a non-discriminatory manner, as set out by the Ontario Human Rights Code.
- Are governed by a democratically elected Board of Directors
- Demonstrate efficiency, effectiveness and fiscal responsibility
- Remain in good financial standing with the City of Ottawa

The program guideline further states its limitation eligible activities. The following is a list of activities beyond the scope of the program:

- Retroactive costs – any costs incurred before a proposal is submitted
- Costs that are the responsibility of another level of government or funding program
- Costs for which an organization would reasonably be expected to make provisions for in the general daily administration of their organization, i.e. ongoing activity / business as usual

Four applications have been submitted and assessed, as detailed in Document 1. The Osgoode Village Community Association is seeking \$4,717 to support the acquisition of equipment used for events, that would reduce their need to rent equipment in the future. The Marlborough Community Recreation Association is seeking \$17,499.42 to acquire some outdoor furniture and equipment to enhance the useability of the outdoor space at the community centre in Pierce's Corners.

Galetta Community Association is seeking \$6,500 to assist in the construction of an outdoor performance area for events. Lastly, the Metcalfe Community Association is seeking \$1,645.35 in addition to the \$6,047.25 previously awarded to address an unanticipated cost increase to the Metcalfe Loop project. Staff have reviewed the applications and recommend support for these initiatives.

The approved 2024 budget for the RGBGP is \$160,000. \$94,036.80 has been approved to date for six new projects in 2024. Approval of the projects recommended in this report would require \$30,361.77, leaving a balance of \$35,601.43 for new projects for the remainder of 2024.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funds are available from within the Rural Community Building Grants Program budget.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal impediments to implementing the report recommendation.

### **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)**

The Ward Councillor has been made aware of the application and staff recommendation.

### **CONSULTATION**

Public consultation is not required for this report.

### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

There are no accessibility impacts. As a standard requirement in the agreement, successful recipients shall warrant that it is in compliance with the requirement of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act, 2005*, S.O. 2005, C.11. and shall continue to comply throughout this agreement

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no asset management implications associated with the report.

### **ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no economic implications.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications.

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk management implications.

**RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Rural Community-Building Grants Program is intended to support rural communities through funding for eligible community projects that are beneficial to rural Ottawa residents.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Document 1 Applications summary and staff recommendations

**DISPOSITION**

As per the Council approved "Rural Community-Building Grants Program Policy", should the recommendations in this report be approved by Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, staff will proceed with administering these applications under the Rural Community-Building Grants Policy.

## **Document 1– Application Summary and Staff recommendation**

### **A – Osgoode Village Community Association – Acquisition of Community Event Materials.**

#### Project Summary

The Osgoode Village Community Association is seeking funds to purchase chairs, tables, games, bubble machines, portable sound systems and lighting equipment to own rather than rent for the events that are held throughout the year. The purchase of these items will provide seating areas for seniors at events, as well as games and entertainment for participants of all ages. Reducing the cost for these items, allows for more of these items to be offered.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$5,896.00 which includes the acquisition of equipment, chairs, tables, umbrellas, and games. The Osgoode Village Community Association is asking for \$4,717.00 in RCBGP funds with the rest being self-funded.

#### Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Osgoode Village Community Association, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$4,717.00.

### **B – Marlborough Community Recreation Association – Acquisition of Picnic Tables, Tables, Chairs and Barbeque for Community Centre.**

#### Project Summary

The Marlborough Community Recreation Association is seeking funds to purchase picnic tables, chairs, tables, and a barbeque for events that are held throughout the year. The purchase of these items will provide a rest area for cyclists, walkers and community members with pets. The picnic tables would allow for families to gather for a picnic while enjoying the outdoor space. The chairs and tables provide an option to hold events outside and allow the provision of cooling stations and rest areas for seniors.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$17,499.42 which includes the acquisition of 6 picnic tables, 50 chairs, 30 tables, and the barbeque.

#### Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Marlborough Community Recreation Association, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$17,499.42.

### **C – Galetta Community Association – Materials to Construct a Performance Deck.**

#### Project Summary

The Galetta Community Association is seeking funds to purchase lumber, deck blocks, deck screws, and assorted deck building materials, as well as gravel, to build a performance deck at the community centre. The deck would be used for outdoor community events, performances, music, dance, and theatre. There is no other community amenity like this anywhere nearby.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$12,500.00 which includes the acquisition of the materials and gravel, and labour. The Galetta Community Association is asking for \$6,500.00 in RCBGP funds with the rest being provided in-kind as volunteer labour.

#### Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Galetta Community Association, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$6,500.00.

### **D – Metcalfe Community Association – Metcalfe Loops Project.**

#### Project Summary

The Metcalfe Community Association is seeking additional funds to complete the Metcalfe Loops project. The project consists of wayfinding signs in the Metcalfe community, along three distinct loops. An unexpected difference between estimate and actuals has caused a shortfall. The community association has raised funds to cover a large amount of the shortfall, but without the additional funds, the community association is left owing and unable to pay.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$10,192.60 which includes the manufacture and installation of the signs. The Metcalfe Community Association has already been awarded \$6,047.25 in RCBGP funds and is asking for \$1,645.35 more in RCBGP funds,

with the remainder, \$2,500, being self-funded.

Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Metcalfe Community Association, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$1,645.35.